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Date of Deposit: March 24, 2004

Our Case No.: 11371-21
Siemens AG Case No. 2002P12201US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Matthias Seufert

Serial No.: To Be Assigned

Filing Date: Herewith

For: FASTENING SYSTEM FOR A
PATIENT TABLE

Examiner: To Be Assigned

Group Art Unit No.: To Be Assigned

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Alexandra, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, it is respectfully requested that this Information Disclosure Statement be entered and the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 be considered by the Examiner and made of record. Copies of the listed documents required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2) are enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g),(h), this Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made and is not to be construed to be an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b).


This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed prior to the receipt of the first Official Action reflecting an examination on the merits and hence is believed to be timely

filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b). No fees are believed to be due in connection with filing of this Information Disclosure Statement, however, should any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be deemed necessary for any reason relating to these material, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct said fees from Brinks Hofer Gilson & Lione Deposit Account No. 23-1925. A duplicate copy of this document is enclosed.

Also enclosed is a copy of a Search Report from the German Patent Office for the priority German application. The Search Report cites a non-English reference categorized as an A for the priority German application. The relevance of EPO752237 is noted in the background section of the application filed herewith.

Applicant respectfully request that the listed documents be made of record in the present case.

Respectfully submitted,



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Registration No. 37,947
Attorney for Applicant

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| FORM PTO-1449 | SERIAL NO. To Be Assigned | CASE NO. 11371-21 Siemens Case No. 2002P12201US |
| LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR APPLICANT'S INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (use several sheets if necessary) | FILING DATE Herewith | GROUP ART UNIT To Be Assigned |
| APPLICANT(S): Matthias Seufert | | |

REFERENCE DESIGNATION U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER INITIAL | | DOCUMENT NUMBER <small>Number-Kind Code (if known)</small> | DATE | NAME | CLASS/ SUBCLASS | FILING DATE |
|---------------------|----|--|------------|---------------|--------------------|----------------|
| | A1 | 4,287,422 | 09/01/1981 | Kuphal et al. | | |
| | A2 | 4,547,092 | 10/15/1985 | Vetter et al. | | |

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER INITIAL | | DOCUMENT NUMBER <small>Number-Kind Code (if known)</small> | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS/ SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION YES OR NO |
|---------------------|----|--|------------|---------|--------------------|--------------------------|
| | A3 | WO 95/16396 | 22.08.1994 | PCT | | Yes |
| | A4 | DE 195 21 060 A1 | 12.12.1996 | Germany | | No |
| | A5 | EP0752237B1 | 28.09.1995 | EPO | | Yes |
| | | | | | | |
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| EXAMINER INITIAL | OTHER ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS <small>(Include name of author, title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.</small> | |
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| EXAMINER | DATE CONSIDERED |
|----------|-----------------|

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.